REMARKS

In the previous Office action the examiner indicated that claims 1, 2, 4 to 8 and 19 would be allowable if claim 1 were amended to overcome the new rejection that was made under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The above amendment does so, and the claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

The rejection of claims 9 to 18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, was maintained. In order to expedite prosecution of this application Applicants have deleted these claims without prejudice to their ability to present these claims in a timely filed continuation or divisional application.

Applicants submit that these amendments and remarks address each issue raised in the recent Office action and that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and early favorable action are respectfully requested. If there are any issues remaining that the Examiner wishes to discuss he is invited to contact the undersigned directly by telephone so that the issues may be resolved as quickly as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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